

# PRODUCT OVERVIEW

## DSS—Data Cleansing & Maintenance

The Data Synchronization System (DSS) is the core of a new best-of-breed data integration solution. DSS has been designed to move, transform, and validate data between separate systems within the IT infrastructure of an organization. The intrasystem connections that DSS provides can be leveraged to provide Identity Management (IDM) functionality, Enterprise Application Integration (EAI), Configuration Management, as well as Extract, Transform, and Load capabilities. These functions allow organizations

### FAST FACTS

#### *What you need to know about DSS*

- ⇒ One tool for IDM, EAI and ETL
- ⇒ Implement in weeks instead of months
- ⇒ Connect via API, JDBC, CLI, TEXT, LDAP
- ⇒ Extremely scalable
- ⇒ Full integration with ARMS
- ⇒ Cross-platform browser based access

to reduce process duplication by automatically sharing common data between disparate resources, eliminating the need for manual data updates and duplication. Identity Automation has developed a series of adapters for DSS that provide connections to the most common business applications, thus reducing implementation time by allowing system architects to concentrate efforts on the few systems that require custom connections.

Data is the currency by which information systems do business within an IT infrastructure. Just as in any system, transactions can be made with currency that is worth more or less depending on its quality. Obviously, good data is the expected exchange medium between systems, but this is not always the case. With the current climate of system integration within the IT space of most major organizations the mantra of “Garbage in Garbage out” becomes vitally important. Bad data can now be automatically pulled out of one system and then quickly populated into any number of other connected systems without notification. Data integrity has become a paramount concern among system administrators, whose responsibility it is to ensure that the information available to decision makers is correct.

Data quality can be affected by a number of factors while it resides in the information systems of an organization. Initially, poor data can exist upon entrance into the system, it can be incorrectly entered through both manual and automated actions. Data input personnel make mistakes either through careless typing or bad processes, and automated feeds that do not possess good data can be drawn upon if there is no framework for checking the data before inclusion. In the middle of the life-cycle migrations and data transformations can alter the data in unexpected ways, eroding the accuracy with each move. At the end of the life-cycle data loss and adulteration can occur from mishandled back-ups and the accumulation of errors, hardware failures, and improper archiving.

Data cleansing can be a long and arduous process, but one that must be taken on if the data in the system is no longer reliable. DSS provides tools that can query, validate, and extract bad data. In many cases automated data clean up is a possibility, especially where entire fields have been adulterated by data that possesses the same value but is recorded in a different format in different systems. Other tasks that can be accomplished include locating incomplete records and duplicates, finding formatting miscues, and validating identities. Identity validation is a growing concern among organizations with large infrastructures who are preparing for system integration. Duplicate common names, replicated user objects, users with multiple system identities, and orphaned accounts are a few of the myriad of issues that directory service trees can be affected by. DSS, with its built in action sets can find the erroneous data, validate it with a known source, and load the correct data.

Cleaning up data corrupted by years of poor policy management is a daunting task, but having DSS implemented to assist in the process will greatly reduce the time required. Finding and correcting errors is the primary purpose of data validation, but with a broader implementation of DSS data management policy can be improved. Improved policy drives improved data integrity, which in turn provides the best possible information to those who must make decisions.



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